

From: [Bertrand, Charlotte](#)
To: [Webster, Susan](#); [Cheatham, Reggie](#); [Maddox, Doug](#)
Cc: [Edlund, Carl](#); [Phillips, Pam](#); [Broyles, Ragan](#)
Subject: RE: R6 Explo Summary Suggestions
Date: Monday, June 03, 2013 9:19:19 AM

Great edits – thanks so much!

From: Webster, Susan
Sent: Monday, June 03, 2013 12:06 AM
To: Bertrand, Charlotte; Cheatham, Reggie; Maddox, Doug
Cc: Edlund, Carl; Phillips, Pam; Broyles, Ragan
Subject: R6 Explo Summary Suggestions

Please see the attached suggested changes made by R6. Thank you. susan

From: Susan Webster
Sent: Sunday, June 02, 2013 10:51 PM
To: Webster, Susan
Subject: R6 Explo Summary Suggestions

R6 Suggestions for HQ Explo Summary – May 31, 2013

On October 15, 2012, an explosion at Camp Minden, Louisiana (the former Louisiana Army Ammunition Plant), prompted attention from EPA Region 6, Louisiana State Police (LSP), and national media. The explosion occurred in a storage magazine on Camp Minden that contained explosive powder owned by a private company known as Explo Systems. Explo Systems was demilitarizing military munitions under a Department of Defense (DOD) contract. Investigations conducted at the Explo facility at Camp Minden after the explosion discovered that Explo was improperly storing approximately 10 million lbs. of explosive materials in open areas all around the facility creating an imminent and substantial endangerment to human health and the environment. Under the direction/oversight of the LSP, Explo employees took from October 2012 to May 2013 to move the improperly stored explosive materials into additional magazines at Camp Minden. The nearby town of Doyline (approximately 400 homes) was evacuated for a week in January until the volume of improperly stored explosive materials was reduced enough to bring the risk radius down from 7,000 feet to 4,000 feet. Storage in the magazines is only a temporary measure to give all of the parties time to develop a permanent solution. The materials cannot remain in the magazines indefinitely.

At this time, the unsecured explosive material that was improperly stored has been moved to and stored in magazines at Camp Minden. EPA Region 6, EPA, and the Louisiana National Guard (LNG) have all requested DOD assistance with the situation at Camp Minden. DOD denied the LNG's requests to provide transportation and storage of the then unsecured explosive materials. However DOD did send a team from the Explosive Safety Board (ESB) to conduct an assessment of the potential short and long term hazards associated with the hazardous materials processes and storage associated with Explo Systems and the ESB has provided assistance on how to store the explosive materials.

During its assessments in early April and early May, the ESB team categorized and identified the specific types of explosive materials associated with Explo Systems, including those already stored within the magazines. Within the magazines at Camp Minden, the ESB identified an estimated



9474206

110,000 lbs. of M30 propellant, an estimated 1.8 million lbs. of tritonal (a TNT mixture), an estimated 300,000 lbs. of potassium nitrate, and an estimated 660,000 lbs. of nitrocellulose which need to be promptly addressed in addition to the estimated 15 million lbs. of M6 propellant. The ESB also identified 3-50 lb. boxes and 2-drum containing crystallized ammonium picrate, a shock sensitive explosive, which may need to be addressed first.

The ESB intends to provide a report of their findings and recommendations to the LNG. LNG and LSP are awaiting the findings of the ESB report to determine future actions to address the explosive materials at the Explo Systems facility. EPA Region 6 continues to coordinate and provide technical support to the LNG, LSP, and the Louisiana Department on Environmental Quality (LDEQ) on how to address the explosive materials. In addition, Louisiana and EPA Region 6 are investigating potential regulatory violations by Explo Systems.